Rehabilitation policy fox displaced workers of NTC

4585. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of Government for rehabilitation of displaced workers of the closed units of National Textile Corporation (NTC);

(b) whether the offer of voluntary retirement to the employees of closed mills is not in consonance with the benefits given to the employees of other PSUs;

(c)if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to remove such disparity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The Government have offered a liberal Modified Voluntary Retirement Scheme (MVRS) to the workers affected by the closure of unviable mills of National Textile Corporation (NTC). The scheme provided for increasing ex-gratia payment to the workers by 50% to 100% depending upon date of revision of wages. Besides, Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) has formulated a scheme for counseling, retraining and re-deployment of employees of Public Sector and NTC employees are exposed to such programmes.

(b) to (d) The amount of compensation paid to the employees of NTC mills under MVRS is more attractive than Voluntary Retirement Scheme in general.

Handicraft development schemes in J&K

4586. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the various handloom and handicrafts development schemes under implementation in Jammu and Kashmir State at present; and

(b) the results achieved as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) During the Tenth Plan period,

the Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms had been implementing various schemes/programmes e.g. Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana, Integrated Handloom Training Project, Handloom Export Scheme, Mill Gate Price Scheme, Marketing Promotion Programme, Integrated Handloom Cluster Development Programme, workshed-cum-Housing Scheme, Health Insurance Scheme, Mahatma Gandhi Bima Bunkar Yojana for the development of the handloom sector and welfare of the handloom weavers throughout the country, including the State of Jammu & Kashmir. Asum of Rs. 610.99 lakh was released under these schemes for the benefit of the weavers of the State of Jammu & Kashmir. During the Xlth Plan, it has been proposed to merge above schemes in to following five schemes, to be implemented by all of the States/UTs including the State of Jammu & Kashmir:

(i) Integrated Handloom Development Schemes

(ii) Marketing & Export Promotion Scheme

(iii) Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Scheme

(iv) Mill Gate Price Scheme

(v) Diversified Handloom Development Scheme

However, subsequent to the announcement made by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, "Integrated Project for Development of Wool and Woollen Design and Development Centre" project has been implemented in the State of Jammu & Kashmir which envisages support to the handloom weavers of the State by way of providing technical facilities, product standardization, testing of materials, design development, post weaving processes, training of personnel, finishing process and machinery upgradation. This will result in enhancing the income and socio-economic status of weavers of the State. So far, an amount of Rs. 355.00 lakh has been released in favour of the State of Jammu & Kashmir.

The Office of the Development Commissioner for Handicrafts has been implementing various schemes for the benefit of the handicraft artisans of the country including artisans of the State of Jammu & Kashmir *i.e.* Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana, Marketing & Support service, Design & Technology Upgradation, Export Promotion, Research & Development, Special Handicrafts Project, Credit Guarantee, Bima Yojana and Rajiv

Gandhi Shilp Swasthaya Bima Yojana. During the Tenth Plan, a sum of Rs. 2,599.15 lakh was released for the benefit of 19,571 artisans of the State of Jammu & Kashmir.

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12.00 Noon

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Labour.

II. Report (2005-06) of the Employees Provident Fund Organisation, New Delhi and reified papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): Sir, I lay on the Table:

I. (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Labour, under sub-section (2) of section 7 of the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provision Act, 1952:

(1) S.0.1190 (E), dated the 27th July, 2006, specifying the establishments to which the Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 shall apply together with delay Statement. [Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 6439/07].

(2) S.O. 380 (E), dated the 15th March, 2007, publishing the Employees Provident Fund (Amendment) Scheme, 2007.

(3) S.O. 228 (E), dated the 22nd March, 2007, publishing the Employees Provident Fund (Amendment) Scheme, 2007. [Placed in Library, for (1) & (2). See No. L.T. 6438/07].

(ii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Labour, Notification S.O. 206 (E) dated the 9th January, 2007, corrigendum to Notification GSR. 658 (E) dated the 10th November, 2005, regarding Employees Provident Fund Scheme. [Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 6439/07].

(iii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Labour and Employment (Directorate General of Employment and Training) Notification G.S.R. 239 (E) dated the